



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 235.00210101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): James Travis, et al.)
Serial No.: 10/030,330)
Filed: October 19, 2001 (Int'l.)
Filing Date: April 20, 2000)
For: A POLYPEPTIDE HAVING AMIDOLYTIC ACTIVITY FOR A SERPIN)

Group Art No.: 1653
Examiner: Unknown

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Prior to taking up the above-identified application for examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 39, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

31
The regulating inhibitor of HNE is α_1 -PI, a plasma protein which forms a complex with this proteinase and is rapidly removed from the circulation and degraded (Mast et al., J. Biol. Chem., 266(24):15810-15816 (1991)). The inhibitor, however, can itself be inactivated by either oxidation at its reactive site or by proteolytic cleavage by nontarget proteinases within the RSL region (Travis et al., Annu. Rev. Biochem., 52:655-709 (1983)), and it is believed that both mechanisms occur during the development of emphysema. Certainly, the high levels of active HNE in the GCF, despite the presence of α_1 -PI, would suggest that parallel mechanisms for inhibitor inactivation may be also occurring in periodontal disease (Travis et al., Annu. Rev. Biochem., 52:655-709 (1983)). In